

Date: Thu, 16 Sep 93 23:06:58 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #1103
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Thu, 16 Sep 93 Volume 93 : Issue 1103

Today's Topics:

Alpha Bravo; America Brazil; America B
CB Linear for sale: How to report?
HTX-202: nice radio, crappy manual
INFORMATION REQUEST FROM ARGENTINA
It's been over 24 hours, should I phone?
need expert info on nicads.
Neighborhood watch groups
Newsline on GENie
Question: RF and Power Lines
There goes the rest of 20M
Valued customer at R. Shack gets goodies

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 15 Sep 1993 13:05:52 GMT
From: news.centerline.com!noc.near.net!jericho.mc.com!fugu!levine@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Alpha Bravo; America Brazil; America B
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>> People who use things like Kilowatt and America are idiots.

>

>My personal experience is different. If I use "Alpha Alpha" to start off
>my call, I find that people often substitute "Kilo Alpha" or "Papa Alpha"
>instead. However, "America America" gets the point across in two ways.
>(eg AA isn't even on the same continent as PA)

>

>I have found that English-speaking people have a very hard time with "Lima",
>so I use "London". (Spanish-speakers trouble with "London" so "Lima" works
>then)

>

>And "Romeo" is no substitute for "Radio." "Romeo" is often confused for
>"Kilo" or other works. "Radio" always gets through.

And after having worked WZ1R in WPX the last few contests, I find that
JAs have a problem with Zulo for Z. It sounds like Zero to them.

Zebra or Zanziabr seem to produce the best results.
Radio is definitely best for R.

Date: 15 Sep 1993 12:25:41 -0500

From: sdd.hp.com!spool.mu.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!usc!cs.utexas.edu!not-for-
mail@network.ucsd.edu

Subject: CB Linear for sale: How to report?

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <randall.747960896@infmx> randall@neptune.informix.com

(Randall Rhea) writes:

>A person who uses a linear for a CB gets his own reward.
>Almost all of them are crap. They do nothing except
>distort your signal and make you the "channel master" of
>your neighbor's TV. Most CBers find that after spending
>a lot money on an illegal linear, they get no more range
>and a lot more problems.

A very sad fact of life is that there are Hams who build CB linear amplifiers
to order for anyone willing to pay.

Kris, AA5U0

Date: Wed, 15 Sep 1993 12:09:16 GMT

From: newsgate.watson.ibm.com!yktnews.watson.ibm.com!hawnews.watson.ibm.com!
news@uunet.uu.net

Subject: HTX-202: nice radio, crappy manual

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Just purchased a Radio Shack HTX-202. Not a bad radio, all considered,
though I wish it could transmit a touch-tone sequence on each PTT (which
would parallel the receive-DTMF squelch). But, the manual stinks.

How do I put a different tone on each channel?

Are there any other hidden gotchas or features in this thing? It feels like I've been given half a map to the Great Underground Empire.

...phil

phillip c. reed

pcr@vnet.ibm.com / KD4PWI@N4YUU.CKY.KY.USA.NA / CI\$:72754,513

* It is highly unlikely that the opinions expressed herein are those of IBM *
* or any of it's operating units. *

Date: 15 Sep 93 21:55:32 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: INFORMATION REQUEST FROM ARGENTINA
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

We are a group of students at the Buenos Aires Exact and Natural Science University in Argentina.

We are preparing our thesis based on Multimedia over Networks, more precisely teleconferences. We have just started to work on it, trying to concentrate on one specific subject.

If it's possible and not a lot of work for you we would appreciate to get any kind of information or sources of information related to this subject.

Hoping to hear from you we remind yours.

Claudia Tejedor,
Claudio Bercovich.

Claudia Tejedor	e-mail: ct2r@zorzal.edu.ar address: Claudia Tejedor Bucarelli 2350 Piso 14 Depto. "B" C.P. 1431 - Capital Federal REPUBLICA ARGENTINA
Claudio Javier Bercovich	e-mail: cjbclau@zorzal.edu.ar address: Claudio Javier Bercovich Espinosa 1610 Piso 2 Depto. "G" C.P. 1416 - Capital Federal REPUBLICA ARGENTINA

Date: Wed, 15 Sep 1993 22:40:10 GMT
From: spsgate!mogate!newsgate!nuntius@uunet.uu.net
Subject: It's been over 24 hours, should I phone?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Sep12.164319.1@wsub.ctstateu.edu> ,
ritterbus001@wsub.ctstateu.edu writes:
>It's already been over 24 hours. Shouldn't I call the FCC and ask
>where my ticket is? :-)
>
>But seriously, I just passed my Technician yesterday (Saturday), and
>now the long wait begins. I hope that some of the reports I have
>recently read of 12-13 weeks were just due to summer holidays.

Well I just got mine and I took the test June 19th. The official issue
date was Sept 7th.....If you're lucky the only FCC worker won't take
vacation during the prescribed waiting period.....

Rick Aldom
(and no I not going to rush out and buy a hat with my serial number on
it.....)

Date: Tue, 14 Sep 1993 23:25:06 GMT
From: europa.eng.gtefsd.com!library.ucla.edu!agate!boulder!cnsnews!
ucsu.Colorado.EDU!fingersh@uunet.uu.net
Subject: need expert info on nicads.
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <m9c3n8INNar@exodus.Eng.Sun.COM> falk@peregrine.Eng.Sun.COM (Ed Falk)
writes:

>Hi all; I figured these newsgroups would be the best source for information.

>

>Not too long ago there was a multi-part article on the care & feeding
>of nicads. I'm sorry to say that I lost it; but as I recall, the
>gist of it was as follows:

>

> 1) it's very, very bad to reverse polarity on a nicad. For this
> reason, completely discharging a device with multiple cells is
> very bad, because if one cell has slightly less charge than the
> rest, that one cell will be charged backwards by the others.
> Once this happens, the cell is destroyed because internal shorts
> form in the cell.

>

> For this reason, you also want to make sure that all cells in a

> device are as near to a matched set as can be, in terms both of
> general characteristics and initial charge.
>
> (I destroyed three AA nicads in the last three days this way,
> which is what prompts this post.)
>
> 2) It's almost as bad to over-charge a nicad. This is where the
> cheap R*d** Sh*ck charger I use is causing me problems.
> Detecting a full charge condition is rather tricky. This can be
> done by watching for a temperature increase in the cell, or a
> small voltage decrease towards the end of the charge cycle.
>
> Charging cells in series can cause problems because some cells
> will reach full charge (and beyond!) before the others. Again,
> a prevention is to make sure all cells are a matched set.

Over charging is not a problem at all as long as it is at less than c/10
charge rate. 600mAh battery - charge forever at < 60mA. However, if you
charge faster than that, overcharge will cause over-heating, venting, and
in extreme cases, explosion.

>
> 3) There is a memory effect, in which a nicad which is charged
> and discharged on a very consistent cycle will eventually reach
> a state where it can no longer be discharged below it's habitual
> discharge point. This effect is very slight, and was originally
> observed in satellites
>
> 4) The prevention for the memory effect is to occasionally put
> the cells through a deep discharge. However, doing this by
> running a device down completely with the cells installed can
> destroy cells (see (1) above.) For this reason, deep discharge
> is not such a good idea, unless you discharge each cell
> individually.
>
>Someone please correct me if I have any of the above wrong.

Looks good so far.

>
>At any rate, it seems to me that the ideal nicad battery charger would operate
>as follows:
>
> 1) all cells charged individually, rather than in series.

Yes, but in a pack the individual cells are often not available.

>
> 2) Deep cycle: discharge the battery at a fixed current until the
> voltage drops to some threshold.

On an individual cell, this voltage depends on the discharge rate. Try 0.7V to 0.9V where 0.7V is at, say a 15 minute rate and 0.9V is at a 30 minute rate.

>
> 3) Charge: charge the battery at a fixed current until the
> voltage climbs to some threshold.

Okay. Try 1.5V per cell if on a high rate charge (1 to 4 times C) or, if on trickle (< C/10) expect the batteries to reach 1.44V per cell.

>
> 4) Maintain: hold the cell at a specific "full charge" voltage.

Only if on low rate. If on high rate, you will burn the batteries. Instead, drop to trickle and let them go forever.

>
>Does this make sense?

>
>As you've probably guessed by now, I'm planning to design and build my
>own charger -- one that does it RIGHT for a change. Can anybody tell
>me what the lower (discharge) and upper (full charge) voltages should
>be? Can anybody tell me what good discharge and charge currents should
>be? (I'll be mainly using this to charge AA's for my camera gear.)

>
>Of course, a pointer to a consumer charger that does the same job
>would be nice too.

>
>--
> -ed falk, sun microsystems
> sun!falk, falk@sun.com
> "Towards the end, the smell of their air began to change"

Lee Jay Fingersh
fingersh@ucsu.colorado.edu

Date: Tue, 14 Sep 93 20:19:24 CDT
From: swrinde!menudo.uh.edu!jpunix!unkaphaed!amanda!robert@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Neighborhood watch groups
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

mcduffie@unlinfo2.unl.edu (Gary McDuffie Sr) writes:

> robert@amanda.jpunix.com (robert) writes:

>

> >randy@cyphyn.UUCP (Randy) writes:

>

> >>

> >> However....the real reliable range of those sets (vhf or uhf) is quite

> >> limited, unless thru a repeater, and very few repeater groups will want a

> >> nite after nite net on for the duration of time such watch groups would ne

> >> So be ready for that. ok?

>

> >Or...establish your OWN repeater.

>

> > --Robert

>

>

> Yeah! Then the crooks will have a central place to gather information!

>

> Gary

They already have police scanners, so what's the difference?

--Robert

Date: 16 Sep 93 17:13:23 GMT

From: ogicse!hp-cv!sdd.hp.com!portal!cup.portal.com!

Larry_L_Ledlow@network.ucsd.edu

Subject: Newsline on GENie

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Of course, to enjoy the latest news on all aspects of radio, electronics, broadcasting, audio, video, home automation, satellite TV, DX, etc...

You should check out GENie: 1-800-638-9636 brings information. Quite a few of our members are on the net.

73s de na5e@genie.geis.com

<A shameless plug, I know.>

Date: 17 Sep 93 01:16:04 GMT

From: ogicse!emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary@network.ucsd.edu

Subject: Question: RF and Power Lines
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <CDExxx.3In@fiu.edu> if438819@solix.fiu.edu (Bradford L. Barrett) writes:

>I have a question regarding the use of my equipment near high tension
>power lines. I recently moved into a house that is near such lines
>and was wondering what they will do to transmission/reception (havn't
>had time to set up my rigs yet, still living out of boxes!)
>I am sure they will have some effect but not sure what, or how I
>should set up my antennas. Anyone know?

Your largest potential problem is picking up interference from corona. There's not a lot you can do about that except keep pestering the power company to fix it. Setting up your wire antennas at right angles to the power lines will help a tiny bit, but if that doesn't favor the direction in which you want to work, then it's not worth it. If the power lines are *really* close, you might be able to use them as a reflector in a directional array, but I'd be more concerned about electrical safety issues and locate my antennas as far from the lines as practical.

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV	"If 10% is good enough	gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems	for Jesus, it's good	uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way	enough for Uncle Sam."	emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244	-Ray Stevens	

Date: 16 Sep 93 18:05:31 GMT
From: ogicse!emory!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: There goes the rest of 20M
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Sep15.194630.21534@ccd.harris.com> drs@ccd.harris.com (Doug Snowden) writes:

>Gary Coffman (gary@ke4zv.atl.ga.us) wrote:
>: In article <2467@indep1.UUCP> clifto@indep1.UUCP (Cliff Sharp) writes:
>: > Anyone who thinks data throughput is the purpose of amateur radio hasn't
>: >read the first part of Part 97.
>
>: I've read the first part of Part 97, I don't see in there anywhere a
>: mandate to preserve antique methods. On the contrary, I see in there
>: statements about advancing the radio art, public service, expansion

>: of the reservoir of trained operators and trained technicians, and
>: maintenance of international good will. Increasing our capabilities
>: by increasing throughput seems central to our charter.

>

>Wrong...if you were designing the equipment that you are using, then I
>would agree with throughput, but most Hams are only users. Advancing
>the art is not being an appliance operator...

So, I suppose you think those who assemble systems using ICs are
appliance operators too. Network systems are the next level of
abstraction. Nodes and software are the resistors and capacitors
of network building.

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV	"If 10% is good enough	gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems	for Jesus, it's good	uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way	enough for Uncle Sam."	emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244	-Ray Stevens	

Date: 15 Sep 93 09:55:23 EDT
From: psinntp!arrl.org@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Valued customer at R. Shack gets goodies
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In rec.radio.amateur.misc, gettys@regent.enet.dec.com (Bob Gettys) writes:

>In article <1993Sep7.141258.27104@CERIS.Purdue.EDU>, dheisler@CERIS.Purdue.EDU
(Dave Heisler) writes...

>>I received in the mail today a coupon for a free catalog, plus a card for
>>taking 10% off any item every month for a year.

> I got mine today also! Did you see the fact that one of the months
>is for August?! I didn't get mine until today - September!

Maybe now they "owe" you that discount retroactively?

CUL es 73 de BB

=====

Brian Battles, WS10	I Tel	203-666-1541, ext 222	I "Radio amateurs
QST Features Editor	I Fax	203-665-7531	I do it with high
ARRL HQ	I Internet	bbattles@arrl.org	I frequency"
Newington, CT USA	I Amprnet	ws1o@ws1o.ampr.org	[44.88.0.87]

.....

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1993 17:52:42 GMT
From: sdd.hp.com!vixen.cso.uiuc.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!agate!boulder!cnsnews!
spot.Colorado.EDU!careyj@network.ucsd.edu
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1993Sep7.134045.25123@ericsson.se>,
<1993Sep7.134641.25404@ericsson.se>, <26i5kj\$edp@newsserv.cs.sunysb.edu>
Subject : Re: Program, convert from S params -> Spice model

rick@cs.sunysb.edu (Rick Spanbauer) writes:

> No, what my original posting sought was a program to take a set
> of S parameters and crunch them into a linear, small signal
> fet/bjt model - ie given the S params, gm, etc, produce a set of
> component values that closely fit the measured parameters of
> the transistor. SuperCompact can do this; I am looking for a lower
> (ie freeware) alternative to SuperCompact. Getting spice to print
> the h/s/z/y params for a specified circuit is something I already
> know how to do ;-)

>: /// Ted Johansson, Dr.Tech. | eka.ekated@memo.ericsson.se ///

Well, I was hoping to learn a better technique, but this thread has been
around for a while with nobody commenting anything even this good.

Here's how I've done it for MESFETs operating at 5 GHz, when we had
the S-Params:

- * First, convert the S-Params to Y params. This is a pretty
standard thing, and one reference for it is Gonzalez,
_Microwave_Transistor_Amplifier_Design_.
- * The Y parameters give you a pretty good idea of what a simplified
FET transistor looks like. I.e., you can determine gm, Cgs,
Cds, Cgd, Rout. It ain't perfect by any means, but it seems
to work.
- * "This exercise is left to the student," as my professors are fond
of saying. Seriously, it isn't that hard to figure out on your
own what the parameters map to; i.e. I think Re(Y21) maps to
gm, or something similar, Im (Y11) is probably Cgs, etc. If
there is enough interest I'll get my course notes and post
relevant details. I believe Motorola had some old transistor
application notes which talked about mapping BJT parameters

to circuit parameters. It is not that hard to set up a mathcad sheet to solve everything given the S-Params.

- * My experience has been that these models are not very robust. That is, don't trust them when you get very far from the frequency at which you extracted the S-Parameters.

Thats all I know. I'll shut up now.

Joe Carey
careyj@spot.colorado.edu

Date: Wed, 15 Sep 93 13:49:32 GMT
From: mnemosyne.cs.du.edu!nyx!lkollar@uunet.uu.net
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1993Sep13.191526.14055@cyphyn.radnet.com>,
<1993Sep14.135910.15580@mnemosyne.cs.du.edu>,
<1993Sep14.200600.1095@ke4zv.atl.ga.us>
Subject : Re: There goes the rest of 20M

I wrote:

>>Self-policing implies some power
>>of enforcement, and we just don't have that.

gary@ke4zv.atl.ga.us (Gary Coffman) responds:

>That's not really what "self policing" means. The emphasis is on the
>*self* part. What it means is you are supposed to police yourself in
>your operation on the air. Some hams also "snitch" on others, or even
>resort to vigilante action, but that's not what self policing means.

Right on as usual, Gary. If all of hamdom were as knowledgeable and as reasonable, there would be no problem. :-)

But getting back to reality, how do we deal with the problems we have? Personally, I try to be the best operator I can in spite of my inevitable mistakes and to avoid over-the-air controversy whenever possible. Perhaps our licensing classes should include a dose of good operating habits (repeater and otherwise) tailored to the local when necessary. Discussing politics & religion over the air (controversy!), for example, is something that can really get you zapped. It happened to a good friend of mine.

--

Larry Kollar, KC4WZK | I like CW, but that doesn't mean I think every ham
lkollar@nyx.cs.du.edu | should have to learn it.

"You mean you came back from the dead, to tell me I'm *odd*?"

Date: 17 Sep 1993 02:48:07 GMT
From: nothing.ucsd.edu!brian@network.ucsd.edu
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <m9c3n8INNar@exodus.Eng.Sun.COM>, <CDDADu.3qF@cnsnews.Colorado.EDU>,
<1993Sep15.224024.9374@ke4zv.atl.ga.us>
Subject : Re: need expert info on nicads.

Just as a bizarre data point: yesterday I took my HT-220 Nami-talkie
out of its charger and made a call on one of the local repeaters - and
it worked first time.

What's surprising about this? Well, I think that's the first time that
radio has been out of the charger in a few years. In fact, I opened the
battery compartment and looked at the battery - it's the original
Motorola NiCad, with a manufacture date of 1974. I've had it since it
was new, and it's been on trickle charge most of the last 20 years.

Of course, I don't know how much of the original capacity of the battery
is left, nor how much longer it's going to keep working. But it had
enough snot left to have a brief chat on the repeater with no signs of
failure.

BTW, this is the standard charger for the radio - the kind that puts
lots of volts are very little current on the battery when it's in
trickle mode - something chargers don't do any more. I expect modern
batteries don't want that kind of treatment.

I'm utterly amazed! NiCads aren't supposed to last for two decades.

Zowie! I wonder if Motorola has a battery museum?
- Brian

Date: 16 Sep 93 19:09:03 GMT
From: wyvern!souza@uunet.uu.net
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <26p587\$49g@gaia.ucs.orst.edu>, <john.747675411@misty>,
<274fge\$h50@gdls.gdls.com>

Subject : Re: Ford Explorer Engine Computer and HF, UHF, VHF Transmit

turini@gdls.com (Bill Turini) writes:

>I purchased an 88 Bronco II and found myself crying in 20 degree weather
>when I tried to install a HF rig. There is so much interference that it
>intrudes on 2 mtr. at times.

>Anyway, I had a lot of interference from the tank mounted fuel pump (try
>scanning the car with a HT and then remove the gas tank cap and see the
>increase in interference.) and after a lot of inquiries I found out that
>Ford would put filters in the tank for nothing if you complained a lot. They
>have a service bulletin out (at least on the Bronco) that covers this.

I drive a Ford Exploer (1992 model) and have had problems only with high
power VHF, it will on occassions make the rear wiper do a sinngle sweep of
the window. I have also noticed that the cruise control drops out when
transmitting in high power VHF or UHF but comes back in when you stop
transmitting. The rig I use is a Alinco 599 VHF power 45, UHF power 40.
Other than that I have had no problems, will be using a TEN-TEC scout in the
car shortly, just waiting for mobile bracket.

73 WB1BUH

--

=====
Stephen Souza <souza@wyvern.wyvern.com>

Date: Wed, 15 Sep 93 13:07:23 GMT
From: mnemosyne.cs.du.edu!nyx!lkollar@uunet.uu.net
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <2468@indep1.UUCP>, <VBREAUULT.93Sep13092739@rinhp750.gmr.com>,
<2470@indep1.UUCP>u
Subject : Re: Radio Shack is people, too.

clifto@indep1.UUCP (Cliff Sharp) writes:

> I don't give a good rip if Ed Juge believed in no-code since he was
>knee-high to a dandelion; if he's influential in marketing in a huge
>organization with a vested financial interest in seeing the no-code
>proposal go through, it's a conflict of interest.

>>I'm encouraged to learn that there is a ham that works for a mass marketer
>>who is in a position to fill the needs of the amateur radio community.

> He helped MAKE that need before he filled it. It's possible that he
>helped make that need just so he COULD fill it.
> To me, it's no different than having defense contractors on the
>Congressional committees that set military budgets.

That's stretching it a bit, don't you think? Military budgets are funded by tax dollars, which we have no choice but to pay. Amateur radio, last time I looked, is a HOBBY funded by what little discretionary income we have left after paying for the military budget. :-)

If a person influences the defense budget so that his/her company can sell more defense goods to the gov't, that's illegal since those tax dollars are lining someone's pockets rather than being spent effectively.

However, in the hobbyist electronics sector, there are no tax dollars beyond sales tax (which you don't pay if you don't buy). Here, if you can create or enlarge a market for your goods, that's called good business sense.

So what's the problem?

- Radio Shack wins because they have a larger market.
- Ed Juge wins because of increased commissions.
- We win because we have more hams at a time when we NEED them.
- We win because we have more competition in the business, giving us better prices and better quality.
- We win because we can go to Radio Shack, JC Penney, whatever, and find low-cost radio gear locally.

Really now, is your gripe with Ed Juge/Radio Shack or with no-code?

--

Larry Kollar, KC4WZK | I like CW, but that doesn't mean I think every ham
lkollar@nyx.cs.du.edu | should have to learn it.

"You mean you came back from the dead, to tell me I'm *odd*?"

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #1103
